

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 9 are in the application.

As a result of the foregoing amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claims 8 and 10.

With respect to the rejection of claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, the Examiner will note that claim 1 has been amended to make it clear what type of material is used for the external covering; specifically, the subject matter of original claim 8 has been incorporated in claim 1.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph are also respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to remove the term "using".

Claim 1 has additionally been amended to recite the functional effect of rolling the agricultural or grain products. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to recite the fact that the agricultural or grain products are flocked. Support for this

amendment can be found in the first paragraph of page 7 of the specification as originally filed. Applicant points out that the rolling of the products is not carried out to break the hulls of the products.

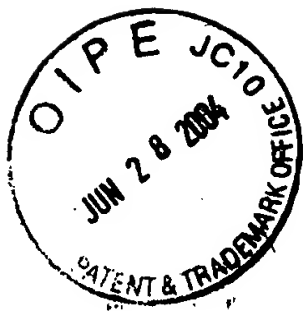
The term "other types" has also been deleted.

In addition, as mentioned above, it has been made clear what type of "synthetic material" is being used in the material of the external covering.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. (b) as being anticipated by Lo, are also respectfully requested.

The reference to Lo does show a roll for hulling rice. However, the reference is limited to a roll having a core with a coating of a nitrile rubber compound. In accordance with the present invention as claimed, on the other hand, the external covering is of a mixture of synthetic material and rubber having a specified hardness.

The advantages of using a cover of the specified type are mentioned in the second paragraph on page 4 of the specification.



Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 1 of the present application is patentable over the art of record.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 23, 2004

By:
Friedrich Kueffner

Date: June 23, 2004